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BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD.

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The work of the American Bible Society is both missionary and benevolent. To all classes in this country the Bible is sold at the mere cost of publication, while in foreign lands the Scriptures are offered at cost or at merely nominal prices, and given to the poor everywhere without money and without price.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

CONDENSED ABSTRACT OF THE REPORT, 1890.

The financial accounts show that the total of the society's income and outlay is, in both items, close on that of last year. But there was then a deficit of some thirteen thousand pounds; and there is a similar deficit now. There has also been an increase in the expenditure, but, considering the whole sum, it is very slight. The legacies are less than before by some five thousand pounds, but it is pleasant to know that the free contributions from auxiliaries are gradually but steadily rising. The home sales are less; but this is more than counterbalanced by a considerable increase in sales abroad.

Looking broadly at the financial position, no one can be content with it. The society's work has constantly moved forward, but the normal income has not equally advanced. Behind the society's splendid opportunities and its achievements there must be a heart just as strong and generous as these are great, and a power which strides, pace by pace, alongside of the demands of the task. Until this easy and powerful equilibrium of forces is attained the friends of the Bible must not, and they cannot, rest.

The issues of the year have again been large—they rise to a total of over three million seven hundred and ninety thousand copies. This is an advance on those of last year by a hundred and fifteen thousand, and on those of ten years ago of a million of copies. The figures of recent years have been swollen by the special and temporary returns of the "Penny Testament:" when these are withdrawn the normal issues show strong and rapid progress, and give striking evidence of the immense and ever-widening tide of this river of the water of life. The figures are: Total receipts, £212,077 10s. 2d. Issues from the Bible House: Bibles, 660,528; Testaments and Testaments and Psalms, 798,770; Portions, 254,022. Total, 1,713,320. Issues from abroad: Bibles, 175,677; Testaments and Testaments and Psalms, 588,448; Portions, 1,314,818. Total, 2,078,943: showing a total of 3,792,263, and, compared with the issues of 1889, an increase of 115,059 copies. The issues of 1880 were 2,780,362.

It will be remembered that many of the London issues are for use abroad.

But from these statistics—so practical, so definite, so suggestive of something great which has been accomplished, yet, in another sense, so vague, so insufficient—let us turn to the actual details and the picture of the work to which they refer.

FRANCE.

The narrative begins with France, and in this, its earliest chapter, there is a brightness of tone which is happily preserved—with more or less of interval—onward to the close. It is not that the circulation has risen to a total which nearly trebles that of the year before—this is accounted for by the free distribution at the Exhibition, and the colportage sales are even less—but there are evidences of a deeper and more substantial kind. "It is my strong conviction," says M. Monod, "that the current of popular thought and life is very apparently less irreligious than it was a few years ago."

M. Monod's account of the Exhibition—in many ways the central event of the year—is equally pleasant. Over a quarter of a million of Portions of Scripture passed into the hands of visitors, and the nature and work of the society were made known perhaps more widely than ever before. It should be added that there are occasional but distinct evidences that the influence of Lasserre's work is by no means exhausted. On the whole, the past year in France has been one of exceptional importance, and much will be expected from the future.

SPAIN.

From Spain the report of the year is strikingly hopeful: the same slowly liberalizing influences which are touching France seem to be also at work beyond the Pyrenees. The copious accounts of Mr. Jameson's colporteurs have left on his mind a strong and distinct threefold impression—"first that the power of the priesthood is rapidly lessening, next that rationalism in a crude form is extending, and lastly that the Scriptures are gradually but increasingly getting into the hands of the people and influencing their lives." Beyond these conclusions he does not go. The his-

tory of Spanish evangelization has been full of surprises, and many of these have been painful. But it is impossible to ignore the consensus of facts which, in the unconscious narratives of the journals, become articulate and eloquent.

ITALY.

From Spain, thus but half awakened from its mediæval sleep, with its languid, suppressed life, its lingering traditions, its touches of Oriental manner, the transition is great to Italy. For in Italy everything is instinct with the movement of modern life, everything is in transition, everything is aspiring and expectant. The accomplishment of political unity is not a final but a first step. "We have made Italy," says Massimo D'Azeglio; "we have now to make the Italians." Of all this eager motion and hope Signor Meille's annual letter is full: he also would see a new era, and he justly believes that the forces which are—often blindly—feeling their way to a great future can have no safer ally than the society which would do for Italy what has been done for England, and make the Bible the companion of every fireside. It is in this connection he quotes the words of Professor Teza, of Padua, from whom the annual report of last year received an appreciative review, in which he called attention to "the vastness of our field, the importance of our work, both in its missionary and its linguistic aspects, and the success which has been attained." In a more recent lecture Professor Teza claimed for the English and the German literatures "an undeniable superiority to all others, whether ancient or modern, in richness, in variety, in high moral tone, and attributed this to the fact that in both countries the Bible has been the book of the people."

It is with special interest that Signor Meille notes that the society's efforts "to make the Scriptures a household book from the Alps to Sicily are every year more and more successful," and that, in spite of an opposition which is constantly growing more bitter, "could we only know in how many homes and how many hearts a Bible, a Testament, and even a single Gospel has shed light and consolation, we would have ample confirmation of the divine promises on which we rely, and also ample encouragement to persevere to the end."

GERMANY.

In leaving Italy we leave also the great Latin peoples of the West; the Romance tongues are heard no longer; we are on the confines of the Teutonic races—especially we are on the confines of Germany.

To Germany, indeed, one must turn early and with special attention. Perhaps no chapter of the year is more important than that which refers to the early home of the Reformation. So much of the brain-work of Europe—one may say so much of the brain-work of the world—is done there; so much power is folded and waiting for its hour of action; so wide are the influences either of the strength and soundness or of the decay of the nation's spiritual temper that one cannot easily overstate the interest of the subject.

For all these, as well as for other reasons, the favorable—almost the triumphant—tone of the annual letter will be doubly welcome. To use Mr. Watt's words, 'the year stands forward as that in which, for an

ordinary year, the spread of the word of God in printed volume, reached the highest point ever attained in Germany. The circulation of the Bible societies, native and foreign, taken together, reached six hundred thousand copies. The German societies have of late years gone up by leaps and bounds. What is more remarkable is that our own direct circulation has not, as might have been expected, gone back in consequence."

SWITZERLAND, HOLLAND, ETC.

What is true of Germany may be found in altered circumstances, but in similar forms, in Switzerland, Holland, Denmark, Belgium, and Norway. These lesser members of the Teutonic group reproduce within their own boundaries many of the aspects of the work seen in a wider or busier field. In Switzerland there are ten centres of Bible distribution—one of them the recently formed "Bible Union," with which the society is specially associated, and the records of the year are singularly vivid and encouraging. In Holland, and in view of the proposed withdrawal of this society, a new auxiliary, full of purpose and energy, has been formed, and the Netherlands Society is pursuing its course with increased vigor. From the work in Denmark the sure and skillful hand of Pastor Plenge has been suddenly withdrawn; but the place of that devoted man has been filled by his friend, Colonel I. Ravn, and the work progresses with many signs of encouragement. Belgium lies partly within the Latin and partly within the Teutonic limits. It represents the difficulties of both, and is one of the least rewarding fields; but the circulation of the year has again advanced, and Mr. Kirkpatrick's men have worked with commendable resolution and with success. In the report from Norway one seems to pass from scenes of conflict to those of repose: its quiet fjords and mountain parishes lie outside the maelstrom of less happy life; it is like a return to the old homes of piety; the colporteur passes amidst the welcomes of the people from stage to stage of his journey, treated everywhere and honored as a friend.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

At this point the course of the survey sweeps southward, and draws us again within the whirl of religious and political life. Scarcely any agency of the Bible society is more varied in race and language than Austria-Hungary, and few have had a more varied history. Within the wide Hungarian plain, and among the populations which spread themselves along and over the mountain ranges, or beside the levels of the Danube, one may see the East meeting the West, and the past of the Middle Ages and their nomad peoples shaping itself into the future. How sensitive Mr. Millard is to the spiritual interests of his agency all readers of his reports know, and they will welcome the pleasant message which this year he is able to send. In both the important avenues of issues there has been increase; and, conscious as he is of the immeasurable difficulties of the field, he is surprised that there has been any advance at all. But, what is far better, there are evidences that a spirit of serious inquiry is in many places being awakened, and that many anxious minds have been led to find peace in the study of the word of God.

TURKEY.

Across the southeastern barriers of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy stretch less the territories than the influences of the Turkish spirit and its government; they sweep eastward and southward to Persia and the Indian Ocean. In this empire of Mohammed two famous cities are at the same time the two headquarters of the society—the one the centre of the new spirit in the Old World, the other of the old and barbaric spirit in the New—Alexandria and Constantinople. The Turkish and Egyptian agencies which they represent may suitably be considered together, for both are included in the region which they unitedly occupy. In this survey Greece is included, though politically and religiously it stands apart. The reports of the past year are perhaps less cheerful than those which precede them; there are frequent references to the increasing poverty of the people and the tightening hand of civil and religious intolerance, and the circulation has only maintained itself. From Constantinople, indeed, the real circulation is less, though the total issues are slightly more; from Alexandria there is a genuine increase, but it is slight. Even this, however, is perhaps to be taken as advance rather than loss of ground. To Dr. Thomson's eye three causes amply explain any lessening of the work—one the prevalence of influenza and kindred disorders, another the hostile action of the Greek Church in Bulgaria, and the third the rising in Crete.

RUSSIA.

From the St. Petersburg centre Mr. Nicolson is able to send accounts of colportage which has gone actively forward; of a circulation which has broadened its issues by twenty thousand copies and reached a total of over three hundred and eleven thousand; of a new sub-agency at Jekaterineburg which breaks the almost endless line of view across Northern Siberia, and "places the coping-stone on the organization of the agency," and from which, within six months, eighteen thousand copies have already been distributed, almost doubling the issues during the whole year before; of the receipt of the seventh hundred thousand, within six years, of the People's Russ Testament; of the progress of new versions or new editions for the Kalmuks, the Uzbek Turkis, and the Kazan Tartars; and, in one brief and in itself almost sufficient sentence, of "work which has steadily and continually advanced from year to year." From the South Mr. Morrison's report is equally favorable. "The year," he writes, "has passed without any of those special troubles and anxieties which marked former years; the circumstances and surroundings of our work are becoming more hopeful, and its simple and holy character has become more generally appreciated in all parts of the country." The circulation has increased in some districts at a very rapid rate, and this in spite of a season during which alternate droughts and floods wasted the lingering harvests.

CHINA.

From China the reports of the year are less inspiring than these; "the dark lines," to use Mr. Kenmure's phrase, "seem more numerous and prominent," and the total of actual issues in each of the three agencies is less than those of last year; but all together they exceed a quarter of a million copies,

and this very favorably compares with the circulation of 1887. The tone of the account from the northern agency is saddened by allusions to famines and pestilences which have "reigned"—the expression is Mr. Bryant's—and "with dire sway" across the levels of Shantung and Manchuria. The European staff has also been reduced, in the southern as well as in the northern agency, or weakened by temporary illness or absence. Yet each report is pronounced in its favorable estimate of the past and in its outlook—as in many cases where less favorable outer results emphasize the importance of those which are spiritual. These, happily, are far from being rare. Even across the pages of the most disheartened journals lies a ray of light—a thread of gold: it is the light which ever accompanies the history of the individual soul as it moves through confusions of thought and sense to the light which is rising in China with the approach, in these latter days, of Christ. In out-of-the-way hamlets, in obscure mountain-tracks, one hears of copies of the Gospel which have come—one cannot say how or whence—but as messengers of life and of a new world.

JAPAN.

The same general statement is true of China's island sister Japan: there also the issues are less; the warm breath of evangelical revival which introduced a new word to the language and a new and happy conception to the mind has for the time subsided, and political movements seem to have absorbed the national thought. But there also the river has sunk only to reappear, for the legend of Arethusa is a reality in the spiritual history of nations and of the soul. Perhaps for both peoples no summary of the year can be more just than that of Mr. Kenmure: "The great matter is preparedness of heart—good soil for good seed—and this we can see, in China, being realized. There is a movement of the dry bones. New influences are at work; new experiences are being passed through; new light is coming in. There is a demand for railways and telegraphs and electric lights. Material things!—but with them will come knowledge, and with it the knowledge of Christ."

INDIA.

The comparative quiet, the pause in spiritual motion—if indeed there be a pause—which seems to touch the accounts from China is strongly contrasted by the vigor of those from India. In these the ear seems addressed as well as the mind; we seem to catch the sounds of a conflict which has come from the very advance and victories of Christianity, and which proves how deep and how shattering of the old order these victories are. It is as if one heard, in their ancient and famous temples, the voice of the old gods as they alarm each other and go out to battle—as if, in India, the era had come again when the divinities of classic Greece and Rome were fighting with early Christianity for their lives. "Never," says one account, "have the powers of evil been so active in Southern India as now;" and the same report, with a voice more or less emphasized, arrives from other parts of the country. And—just as in the second and third centuries—it is along the great roads, in the cities, wherever active political or intellectual life centres itself, that the force, and almost the despair, of

the assault of idolatry is seen. In the country districts and up among the mountains one still finds in India—and will find for long the *Pagani*—the village people who peacefully worship the old deities; or, hearing of Christ, wonder whether this is not Krishna again in a new incarnation. We have come, it is increasingly evident, to “the last great battle:” to the mutiny, not of the people but of the powers and tributaries of the vast pantheon of the East, which is to precede the wail—which some believe they have already heard in India, sobbing itself away—“Great Pan is dead!”

OTHER COUNTRIES.

Beyond the shores of India and of Asia lie other immense fields occupied by the society—the island-worlds of Malaysia, of Oceania, of Australasia, the ever-extending continent of Africa, the Dominion of Canada, the republics of South America. To these hardly a glance can be given here, but their importance is perhaps scarcely less than that of those great peoples whose reports have been reviewed. From Singapore Mr. Haffenden announces a circulation which, from the thirty-three thousand of last report, now passes forty-six thousand; and within this total the purely Malay issues have increased a hundred per cent. He speaks of disarmed Mohammedan prejudices, of growing thoughtfulness among the native races, and adds: “Hundreds upon hundreds of towns and villages have been visited, and so many registered conversations that for fear of exaggeration I must not mention their number.” From New Zealand and Australia the messages of the year are unusually bright; it is evident that the Greater Britain of the southern seas will emulate—it must be hoped it will yet surpass—the highest Christian enterprise of the old land. The reports, which barely touch the new world of Africa—Morocco and Algiers in the north, and to Egypt reference has already been made—and the group of auxiliaries of the south, seem all to show the expansion and advance which has elsewhere in this rapid survey been so evident; but the dark continent is only as yet touched by the dawn of its approaching day. In the Dominion of Canada the conflict of race and faith seems to deepen; in the South American republics the influence of secular life and a low morality is fatally present; but Brazil has received, without bloodshed or political shock, the conditions of religious equality and freedom which have so often proved favorable to the advance of the kingdom of God.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

AGENCY FOR CHINA.

It is with deep regret that the Board of Managers have learned that the condition of the Rev. Dr. Gulick's health, which compelled him last year to leave Shanghai, is still so precarious as to take away all hope of his returning to China at present. More than fourteen years have elapsed since he entered the Society's service, and during all that time he has had large responsibility for the manufacture and

distribution of the Scriptures in the East. His field for a part of the time included Japan and Siam, as well as China, and as the result of thorough system and careful attention to details very satisfactory work has been accomplished, so that the circulation of the Scriptures in China has steadily increased, and for some years has exceeded 230,000 copies annually. It is a great loss to have such a co-laborer laid aside; but if a change is inevitable, the Board are fortunate in securing as his successor the Rev. L. N. Wheeler, D.D., formerly a missionary in China, and now pastor in charge of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. Dr. Wheeler will bring to the work experience already gained on the field, some knowledge of the forms of speech employed by the people in speaking and writing, and a familiarity with the practical affairs of life which is invaluable in the diversified work of a Bible agent. He has accepted the appointment, and will arrange to leave for the field in the early autumn.

PROGRESS IN TRANSLATION.

The *Missionary Herald* reports that Mr. Ousley, of the East Central African Mission, who has been at Kambini for five years, finds it needful to come to the United States for medical treatment, but is busily engaged in the work of translation, having already completed the Gospels of Matthew and Mark in the Sheetswa tongue, and hoping to finish Luke, and perhaps the Acts, before he is compelled to leave.

A NOTABLE EVENT.

BY MRS. LAWRENCE M'CULLY, IN THE CONGREGATIONALIST.

On the 11th of April of this year there occurred in the neat, New England-like cottage at Gilbertinia, Honolulu, an event in the lives of Rev. Hiram Bingham and his wife which would be remarkable in the life of any individual, and which can come to very few people. On that day Mr. Bingham translated the last verse of the Old Testament, thus completing the translation of the whole Scriptures into the language of the Gilbert Islands—a language which he, without the help of any white man, himself reduced to writing. The completion of this great work naturally caused much joy to Mr. and Mrs. Bingham, and they invited the Hawaiian Board of Missions, and all who were interested in the circulation of God's word, to meet that evening at their house to unite with them in thanksgiving for the completion of another version of the Scriptures.

Mr. Bingham is the only living son of one of the seven pioneer missionaries to the Sandwich Islands in 1819. He was educated in America, and after graduating at Yale in 1853 gave himself to the cause of missions, and went beyond the Sandwich to the Gilbert Islands, which, with the Marshall and Caroline groups, have been prominent in Spanish and German foreign affairs during the past three years. The people to which Mr. Bingham went, with his devoted wife and true helpmeet, were uncivilized, warlike, and

without a written language. The Gilbert group numbers eighteen different islands, inhabited by thirty thousand people. They are low, coral islands, growing scarce anything but pandanas and cocoa-nuts. On one of these islands Mr. Bingham was stationed, and began the study of the language. Imagine what the isolation and deprivation of such a life thirty years ago must have been! Nothing fresh as to food except an occasional mess of fish, fowl, *popai*, pandanas, and cocoa-nuts—neither fresh butter, milk, beef, mutton, nor vegetables. For these young people, warmly attached to those left in the home lands, no mail from parents and friends except once a year! no medical help within three hundred miles! no cultivated, or even civilized, society for this educated and refined man and woman! and of course no Christian sympathy outside of their own home!

In the short space of fifteen months after these young missionaries arrived at their station Mr. Bingham had reduced the language to writing, and begun the translation of the Bible. This work of translation went on amidst other pressing duties, which naturally fell to Mr. Bingham as the only white male missionary in the group, and at the end of five years three-quarters of the New Testament had been translated. Then Mr. Bingham's health completely broke down, probably greatly owing to the lack of proper food, and for five years nothing was done in translating. When his health was sufficiently restored he revised the portion already translated, and it was published. The remaining quarter was finished fourteen years from the beginning of the first translation. The people of the Gilbert Islands now had everything necessary for learning the way of life. But should the translation of the Bible stop there? Mr. Bingham was the only man in the whole world who could translate the Bible from the original Hebrew (as it must be so translated if published by the American Bible Society) into the Gilbert Islands language. He longed to do it, but there seemed almost insuperable obstacles in the way.

The story would be too long for a newspaper article to tell how, in spite of feeble health, weak eyes, Hebrew totally neglected for twenty-five years, and "in weakness and weariness oft," ten years after the translation of the New Testament was finished, the translation of the Old Testament was begun, and with the help only of Mrs. Bingham for the first two years, and after with the help of a Gilbert Islands man, went on through the Psalms and poetical books, and then from Genesis on, in regular order, till the 11th of April, when the last verse of Malachi was translated, thus completing the translation of the whole Scriptures, begun thirty-one years before. On the evening of this day many of the friends of Mr. Bingham met at his house to celebrate the completion of his work. The folding doors between the parlor and the modest study, where so much of the translation had been done, were opened. The members of the Hawaiian board were seated in the study, the guests in the parlor. At the request of the president of the board, the venerable Dr. Lowell Smith, of the Hawaiian Mission, offered prayer. After this Dr. Hyde, the chairman of the committee on publications, read a report from that committee, which contained a copy of a letter written by Mr. Bingham, addressed to the secretaries of the

American and Hawaiian boards and of the American Bible Society. This letter was full and interesting, giving a history of the translation.

Mrs. Bingham has compared every verse of the translation with the English version, examined the letters and punctuation marks, made suggestions, copied many pages, and has always been the devoted wife, cheering her husband, "when faint and despondent through seasons of protracted illness, with the hope that he should yet praise God for his goodness." She has done so much of the work necessary in such a translation that she might justly be called co-translator.

Three copies of this translated Bible lay on the study table, two of these copies three-fifths manuscript each, and one copy entirely manuscript, containing in all about 9,500 pages, of which Mose Kaure had written 7,000 pages. The first of the three was presented by the Hawaiian board to the Gilbert Islands people, and put in care of Mr. Kaure to keep for their benefit. The second copy, made largely by Mr. Kaure, mostly at the expense of the Hawaiian board, was delivered over by him to the board for preservation as a duplicate until the Bible should be all printed. The third copy, all manuscript and a ponderous affair, which filled his arms as he carried it to the secretary, Mr. Bingham delivered to the American Bible Society through the Hawaiian and American Boards. This copy it was voted Mr. Bingham should retain until arrangements should have been completed for its publication.

These gifts were presented formally during the little ceremony of the evening. The most touching event was "the transference to the Hawaiian board of the trusteeship," as Mr. Bingham put it, of \$1,000 as a permanent fund, the interest to be used in circulating the Scriptures among the Gilbert Islands people. The beginning of this fund was from gifts to Mr. Bingham by two English sea-captains, traders in the Gilbert Islands, of \$100 each. The gift of one Mr. Bingham declined to accept as a personal present, but suggested that it be used in some way for promoting the circulation of the Scriptures among the Gilbert Islanders. His friend approved of this plan, as did also Mrs. Bingham. About half of the other gift was used in buying a sewing-machine, much needed by his wife, and the remainder he devoted also to the circulation of the Gilbert Islands Scriptures. These sums were put to interest and so invested that by the time the Bible was completely translated, and at the end of twenty-seven years after its first investment, the \$150 had reached the sum of \$1,000, and were in the form of a Hawaiian government bond, now above par, and bearing six per cent., without taxes. This bond was formally made over to the Hawaiian board, and thus Mr. Bingham had the great joy of starting a fund for the circulation of the Bible among a people whose language he had reduced to writing, and with which he had translated the blessed book. By this generous gift the very poor among this people can have a copy of the Scriptures. After a prayer of thanksgiving by Dr. Beckwith, Mr. Bingham, to his complete surprise, was presented with a handsome gold watch and chain by his friends and neighbors as a token of their sympathy with him in the completion

of his work. Mrs. Bingham was also remembered, as well as Mr. Kaure.

During the early days of Mr. Bingham's life at the Gilbert Islands, a party of men from one of the other islands of the group came to Apaiang, where the Binghams lived, to make war upon the people of this island, and with the plan, if successful, of killing the missionaries. In one of the canoes was a baby boy. The invaders were defeated, and the baby left behind in the retreat. He was adopted by a native of Apaiang, educated in the school taught by Mr. and Mrs. Bingham, and has been the most helpful assistant to Mr. Bingham during the past four years in his work of translating, and Mr. Bingham generously calls him his *assistant* translator.

How could a life be more nobly crowned than is Mr. Bingham's by the completion of so prodigious a work as the translation of the whole Bible? If he does not say, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace," he might say, "Let me abide in peace;" but Mr. Bingham is not an old man, and there are years of work before him which he wishes to do, God willing.

HONOLULU, May 1, 1890.

PERU.

Our latest advices from Mr. Penzotti are dated May 2d. He says:

The twenty days which Mr. Milne and Dr. Drees spent here were of great use to our work. They left for Bolivia on the twelfth of April, expecting to visit La Paz, Oruro, Sucre, Potosi, and Tupiza, and to be in Buenos Ayres about the first of June. I very much desired to start with them, but had to postpone my trip to a later day. I have now finished sending off books in different directions, and am expecting to start on a long journey on the fifth instant. I leave six of our men working in the north and south of Peru, with all necessary instructions to guide them during my absence, and take three along with me. As Peru has been agitated with the elections our work stopped a little, but it is now going forward again. The election has passed without any misfortune, as we prayed it might, and now we have to give thanks to the Lord and ask for new blessings for Peru. The opinion of many is that the newly-elected president is well disposed to liberty, and if he does not protect us in our work he will not be against it. A new appeal has been made to the criminal judge, asking that I be put in prison for having violated the constitution of the country in introducing here the *Propaganda Protestante*, as they call it. Let us see what the divine providence will prepare. I do not expect that my journey will be interrupted by this, as I leave a person here while I am absent to answer the questions in my place.

Peru, Bolivia, and Equador are the three countries most dominated by the intolerance of worship, and we need a place in your fervent prayers that we may meet the difficulties. Some of my family have been sick ever since we came to this west coast, and I have spent three times as much for medical advice and drugs as in my whole life before.

AN ARGENTINE COLPORTEUR.

Among Mr. Milne's colporteurs in the Argentine Republic is one named Martin Arnejo, a native of Spain, but brought up in South America—a bright, intelligent man, about twenty-seven years of age. His story, told as nearly as may be in his own words, is as follows:

Judging from the effects it produces, the Bible is a book which may well be called miraculous. In it the Creator clearly reveals himself; in it we are taught the precepts we have to observe, and the way we have to take if we would attain unto the glorious kingdom of Christ.

As the best proof of this, the writer purposes to give, in a few words, some particulars of what he himself has experienced:

Being born of Roman Catholic parents, and aware of the tremendous abuses committed in that church, I became an unbeliever, or rather was perfectly indifferent. About ten years went on thus, until I became aware of a great void in my heart—a hungering for something, I did not know what. I joined a society of Spiritualists, but this proved unsatisfactory, and I did not know where to turn next; but God put me in the way of finding the truth. I saw an advertisement in the daily paper, which ran thus: "Wanted, Bible distributors for Uruguay and the interior of the Argentine Republic. A practical knowledge of the gospel indispensable." I applied, and in conversation with the superintendent, he asked me what about this knowledge of the gospel. The question seemed to convince me that *this* was what I needed, and I replied: "I have not this knowledge, but I wish to have it. Experience is not born with one, and I suppose it may be obtained." He then gave me a Testament, marking some verses about the new birth, in the third chapter of John. After further conversation, he also gave me some tracts, and recommended me to attend the evangelical services. The reading of the Testament brought light to my heart. I learned there the great truth that Christ died for us—that all our iniquities were laid upon him—and confiding in this, I can say, with Paul, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Being convinced that by the reading of the Scriptures we are made wise unto salvation, I have determined to occupy myself in distributing them among my fellow-men; and every day in the prosecution of my work I meet with persons who are able to give a like testimony, and who trust in the perfect sacrifice Christ has offered for us.

MACEDONIA.

MONASTIR, April 15, 1890.

The European Turkey Mission of the American Board has done a new thing at this, its nineteenth annual meeting, in appointing three of its lady members to assist in the preparation of the letters which are yearly sent by this body to the various societies co-working with us. This is a pleasant task, and the share which falls to myself, that of writing the letter to the American Bible Society, is all the pleasanter to me because of the memories which it awakens of my

former acquaintance with Dr. Gilman, and most vividly of a delightful communion service in the Bible House at Constantinople, during his visit to that city a little more than ten years ago.

With the exception of our revered and beloved "Father Riggs," of Constantinople, Revs. W. E. Locke, of Philippopolis, and H. C. Haskell, D.D., and Fred L. Kingsbury, M.D., of Samokov, our Mission is now assembled in Monastir. We had anticipated also the presence of your representative, Rev. M. E. Bowen, of Constantinople, but he had not returned from Egypt when our friends left to come hither.

During the six years which have intervened since our last meeting in this place, the Mission has been invited more than once to gather here again, but either from the unsettled political condition of the country, or because the long journey required more time for the sessions of the meeting and for the going and returning than the Easter vacation allowed, it has seemed impossible until this spring. Now that railway connections have been made, however, a journey of three days sufficed to bring our brethren from Constantinople hither, and about two days and a half for those from Philippopolis and Samokov. It is with special gladness of heart, therefore, that we find ourselves the guests of the families of Messrs. Bond and Baird, and the teachers of the girls' boarding school, Misses Cole and Matthews, who feel themselves more isolated than we of the other stations feel, because they are located so far in the interior.

Macedonia welcomed us with the beauty and fragrance of the early springtime, and we feel our hearts in tune with nature's praise to God as we recall his mercies shown to us as a Mission since our last annual meeting. Especially as we call to mind the fact that death has spared our circle, and very serious illness has come to none of our homes, are we thankful to our Heavenly Father for his preserving care.

For one and all of us the Bible is, and must ever be, our one weapon in the warfare of conquering this land for Christ. In some places we find the homes well supplied with copies of it, but no comprehension in the minds of its owners of the priceless treasure which it may become to their undying souls. In one Macedonian village, where some years since a colporteur reported a remarkable sale of Testaments, the mothers used the books as charms to ward off evil from their children. In a large mountain village, which was one of the birthplaces of Bulgarian liberty, and which has given to Bulgaria some of its leading statesmen, teachers, and merchants, the Bible or New Testament is commonly found in the homes, but is, alas! as little read or appreciated as are some of the elegantly bound volumes of the holy word which adorn many a centre-table in our own enlightened land. Still, in such places, the Scriptures are in the hands of the people, and when the voice and touch of the living preacher are added by divine grace, the hitherto sealed book shall become the power of God unto the salvation of their souls.

In the dissemination of the Scriptures we are the coadjutors of the Bible societies, and most thankfully recognize our relation to you. By reference to the various station reports, which were presented at

the opening of our meeting, we learn the following facts:

The total issue of Scriptures to our field from the Central Mission Press at Constantinople, last year, was 4,800 copies, of which 2,897 were Bulgarian Bibles, Testaments, and Parts; and 1,903 Slavic Testaments, Gospels and Acts, and Psalms. "The colporteur employed by the Monastir station has visited all parts of his field, giving more time than in past years to the larger villages. Sales of Scriptures and of other books have not been large, as villagers are slow to buy and the country seems to be growing poorer. More people were ready to listen to him than formerly, and opportunities for religious conversation have been more numerous and more favorable." The Philippopolis station has three booksellers under its supervision, whose returns show better sales than in some past years, amounting to about £100. The restrictions placed by the government last year, upon the circulation of the Bible and other books in the army, still continue practically in force. Besides the colportage done by students in the Samokov field, three colporteurs, two in Macedonia and one in Bulgaria, spent twenty-six months in this work, at a cost of £121¼; sales, £44¾. The colporteur in Bulgaria visits all his field two or three times a year. He has been annoyed, but not seriously hindered, by opposition. The two colporteurs employed in the Razlog, Macedonia, have endured a good deal of hindrance in their work, as well as personal suffering, from being imprisoned in the Uskup vilayet, although, as we are told, their passports were all right.

You will be interested to know also that seventeen Bible-women have been associated with me during the whole or a part of the past year, in the blessed work of scattering "the good seed of the kingdom," through house-to-house visitation and meetings among women and children. Six of these were the only evangelical workers in the places where they were stationed. A training-class of these workers gathers in Samokov for a month in the summer, after the close of the schools there. The Lord has set the seal of his approval upon the labors of these our sisters, in the conversion of the souls of many of those who have come under their ministry of love.

In entering upon another year of work for God, among the peoples of European Turkey, it is to us a strength to feel that your hands join ours in it, and we pray that God may give you abundant means to scatter his word broadcast among the nations, and that we may take the portion which falls to us and place it as the opportunity is given us—looking unto Him who has put on record his declaration: "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

In behalf of the Mission, yours very sincerely,
ELLEN M. STONE.

THE KUMAMOTO BAND.

YOKOHAMA, Japan, Jan. 27, 1890.

A very intelligent and careful observer among the Japanese has said that the three foreigners who have done most to influence the character and lives of his people were Francis Xavier, Bishop Nicolai of the

Greek Church, and Captain James. It is not claimed that the latter was able to accomplish anything like the same amount of work himself that the others did, but his influence upon a few young men of remarkable and varied gifts set on foot a movement that is destined to become one of the most powerful and successful agencies in the propagation of Christianity throughout the empire.

At the Bible school held in Kioto in July, 1889, an account was given by one of the number of the origin of the Kumamoto band. It is a story that all who take an interest in the introduction and growth of Protestant Christianity in Japan will read with mingled feelings of wonder and gratitude to God. Little did those think who brought Captain James to this country that such results were to follow.

About nineteen years ago the prince, or *daimio*, of Kumamoto thought that the great thing to be desired in the education of the young men of Japan was the cultivation of the warlike spirit. He feared that if ordinary teachers only were employed they would grow up in ignorance of the military art, and with a dislike of the profession of arms. So he sent to America and secured the services of Captain James, of the United States Army, to teach the students English and the art of war. The wife of Captain James was a daughter of the Rev. H. M. Scudder, D.D., and the captain himself was a professing Christian. But these important facts were not taken into consideration by the friends and patrons of the school.

The people of Kumamoto and the neighboring provinces were especially conservative and opposed to foreign innovations. It was virtually at the peril of his life that Captain James lived and taught among them. The students were of the same spirit as the rest, and on account of this state of feeling it was both difficult and dangerous to attempt any Christian work. Then, too, at first they had no knowledge of English, and Captain James was equally ignorant of Japanese.

Under these circumstances, he went on for three years giving instruction in English, winning the confidence and affection of his pupils by his kind and wise deportment.

Then he told them if they would like to study the Bible he would teach them on Sundays. They hated the very name of Christianity, and it was only out of love and respect for him that they were induced to go and hear what he had to tell them. They were cautioned by their friends that while they went to hear his teachings they were not to be influenced by them. If they studied Christianity they would become Christians, and the religion of Christ was like a burning fire that swept everything before it: it must therefore be resisted.

In the science of war it was first necessary to know the enemy; and so to prevent the entrance of a foreign religion one must go and find out its character and purposes. So many of the students went simply to discover what Christianity is, in order to be better able to resist and overthrow it. Not one went with a sincere desire to know and accept it. It was all so new and strange, and they were so little disposed to learn, that his efforts seemed to be quite wasted; yet his kind manner pleased and interested them. When they saw him praying, with his eyes

filled with tears, they said among themselves, "The foreigner cries;" and this made them laugh.

The captain simply taught the Bible, and made no personal appeals to them to become Christians. Two of them then went to his house and said, "We wish to become evangelists." But to their surprise he did not encourage or urge them to do so, but simply said they were not yet competent to undertake such a work.

After one year had passed some of them became convinced of the truth of the Bible, and decided to follow its teachings. This caused a division, and others took up the study of Confucianism. A few went to both teachers in order to see which religion was best. Those who took the Bible for their guide became moral and temperate, while the others were the reverse.

About this time Captain James began to preach as well as to explain the meaning of the Scriptures. Such were his fluency and zeal that his sermons would sometimes last three hours, and yet the young men were never weary of hearing him. After six months many who had opposed Christianity were convinced of their errors, and all but one or two acknowledged the gospel to be true.

Having a vacation at the close of the year of ten days for the New Year's festivities, the students asked Captain James how they could spend the time most profitably. He told them they would get the most profit by the study of the Bible and prayer. So they agreed to study the Gospel of John and discuss it among themselves, and also tried to interest others in the word of God.

When the vacation was over they returned to the school with increased faith, and could not rest without telling others what God had done for them. They now began to teach openly, and with great zeal proclaimed to their companions the way of salvation. So much were they interested in this matter that they would sometimes omit their lessons and meet in their rooms to study the Bible and pray. Some would gather others and explain to them the doctrines and precepts of the sacred word, and even boys of fourteen or fifteen years of age became teachers of persons much older than themselves.

Until this time they had no knowledge of a revival, or the work of the Holy Spirit, and did not understand why so many were thus interested in the subject of personal salvation.

Not only did the pupils teach each other, but some went to their homes, and into the streets, and taught whoever would listen to them. Old men and women thus heard for the first time of the wonderful love of God in the gift of Christ for such as they.

As the chief cause of all this, it is stated that the wife of Captain James had been praying in secret, and God thus gave the reward openly. For six months before the revival came this had been her constant supplication.

During one month about forty students confessed their sins and gave their hearts to the Lord. Others also were interested, and began to search the Scriptures for an explanation of such strange and happy results.

In January, 1876, these forty young men went to the top of a neighboring hill and there agreed that,

having received a blessing from God, they ought to make it known to their people; so they pledged themselves to this work, and asked God's help and guidance. They also wrote a pledge that was signed by twenty of the number.

This event caused a great excitement in the town. Many were astonished, and it was said that the students had all become Christian preachers. The blame was put upon Captain James, and it was decided at once that it must be stopped. Such a state of things was especially contrary to the wishes of the prince, who had established the school, and various plans were proposed to put an end to the growth of the hated religion. Some of the men in town proposed to kill Captain James; others thought differently: but all agreed that every effort should be made to turn the young men from their faith and prevent the increase of believers.

It was looked upon as a disgrace to the family when one of the sons became a Christian, and various means were resorted to for the purpose of redeeming the family name. One mother came to her son with a drawn sword and said: "If you do not renounce Christianity I cannot say anything to our ancestors as an excuse, and so I shall kill myself and go to them at once." A father drew his sword and said to his son, "If you continue to be a Christian I will cut you in pieces." Another shut his son in a room by himself for one hundred days. When threatenings and persuasions did not avail, some were disinherited. The number was finally reduced to some thirty persons who stood fast to their faith. So firm was their decision that nothing could turn them aside. Some of their schoolmates reviled them and treated them with contempt. Captain James strengthened and comforted them as best he could. Being thus encouraged, they bore their trials with meekness and patience and grew more and more strong in their adherence to the teachings of Christ.

After six months the excitement subsided, and the persecution was more or less abated, but the school was broken up and Captain James had to leave.

In the autumn of 1876 about forty students went to Kioto and entered the Christian school there under the care of the Rev. Mr. Neeshima. Fifteen of them who took up the study of theology have become leaders in almost every department of Christian work.

Some of the others graduated with honor in the ordinary collegiate course, and have filled places of importance. Thus has God plainly overruled the plans of his enemies for the upbuilding of his kingdom in Japan. Who can read such a story and not feel that Christ reigns on the earth, and that the kingdoms of this world shall yet acknowledge him?

H. LOOMIS.

"NOT SUFFERED TO CONTINUE BY REASON OF DEATH."

Recent tidings have been received of the death of the Rev. E. T. Doane, a missionary of the American Board, whose zeal in translating the Scriptures into Ponape and in circulating them among the people of that island has made his name familiar to the readers of the *Bible Society Record*. He died in Honolulu on the 15th of May.

DOMESTIC DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACTS FROM MONTHLY REPORTS OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS.

ALABAMA AND FLORIDA.—The month of April has been very encouraging for our work for the American Bible Society. The auxiliaries are waking up in many places to the great work they have to do.

The co-operating churches are beginning to recognize the claims of the American Bible Society on their benevolence more than ever before.

When I began work for the Society a collection for the cause was hardly thought of except it was taken by the District Superintendent. Now many churches have made the same plans for the American Bible Society collection as for the other benevolent causes of the church. This, we trust, will continue till all the churches will put the American Bible Society on the same ground with all the claims of the church.

GEORGIA.—On the first Sunday night in April I attended the anniversary of the Washington County Bible Society in the Methodist Church, Sandersville. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. Adams, of the Christian Church, and by the District Superintendent. The attendance was good and the meeting was an interesting one.

At Waycross (the seat of the Ware County Bible Society), on the fourth Sunday, was held the best meeting of the month. I preached in the Methodist Church in the morning to a full house, and received a contribution of \$70. The anniversary of the society was held in the Baptist Church at night. A donation of \$100 was made by this society to the American Bible Society, to aid in its general work.

ILLINOIS.—Ogle County auxiliary held its forty-fifth anniversary at Polo April 30th, in the Lutheran Church. The reports for the year were very good, and the auxiliary is in excellent condition. Over twenty branch societies in the county are doing good work in their respective localities. There are over \$1,000 worth of books in the depositories of the county.

The society made a donation to the Parent Society this year of \$200. This auxiliary has sent to the American Bible Society over \$27,000 during its history, nearly \$12,000 of which were on donation account.

The anniversary was addressed by Rev. F. H. Smith, pastor of the Congregational Church of Byron, in a timely and able discourse. The president and Superintendent also made short addresses.

The event of the month and of the year was the jubilee of the Chicago Bible Society, held in five of the leading churches of the city on Sabbath evening, April 13th. It was a great day for the Chicago Bible Society and for the cause. We look for far-reaching and lasting results from this celebration, and from the new impulse given to the cause from this jubilee occasion.

IOWA.—This report covers five Sundays, the first of which I spent in Black Hawk County, speaking three times. At present the society is well officered and is in good shape for aggressive work. During the summer they promise to organize several branches.

Cedar Falls is doing well. We had an excellent congregation there for an afternoon meeting, and received \$69 11 for the Bible cause.

The following Sunday the Jefferson County Bible Society had a very interesting meeting at Fairfield. A good collection was taken, and \$50 of it donated to the Parent Society.

The work of the month was closed with the Poweshiek County Bible Society, centering at Montezuma. This society has had no meeting since 1887, and has but few books in its depository. We had a very interesting union meeting at the Methodist Episcopal Church in the evening. Officers were elected and good collections taken.

LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI.—During the month the cause has been presented and collections taken therefor at the following places, all of which are in Mississippi, to wit: Vassburg, Heidleburg, Ellisville, Morton, Forest, Centreville, and Woodville. The people at each place seemed to feel an interest in the cause, and the amount they contributed thereto was about as large as could be expected under the circumstances.

INDIANA.—Several days of the first part of the month were spent at the session of the North Indiana Conference, at Muncie. Our work received the hearty indorsement of that body.

The Fayette County organization is one of our most faithful and reliable societies. Two hundred dollars were ordered transferred from their book to the donation account. The Jasper County Society has existed only in name since 1877. It is now excellently officered, and re-enters the field under very favorable circumstances. The Jeffersonville and Vicinity auxiliary has had about the same experience. The anniversary, Sabbath last, was well attended and interesting. Collections had been taken in the morning amounting to sixty dollars. A good invoice of books will be ordered and the territory at once canvassed.

KENTUCKY AND TENNESSEE.—Two of the Sabbaths of April were spent in Kentucky, viz., with the Barren County and Fulton and Vicinity Bible Societies, and two in Tennessee, with the Green and Hawkins County Bible Societies.

During the week I attended the anniversary of the Cocke County Bible Society, Tennessee, and visited Bristol and Goodson and the Hamblen County Societies, delivering an address before the latter.

The Fulton and Vicinity, the Hamblen County, the Cocke County, and the Hawkins County Bible Societies are worthy of commendation.

The officers of the Bristol and Goodson Bible Society held their annual meeting with decided success.

MICHIGAN AND WISCONSIN.—Your Superintendent has found the first month of the new year a busy one, having travelled 2,395 miles, visited 19 auxiliaries, delivered 12 addresses, and received and forwarded 8 auxiliary reports. Several auxiliary anniversaries will justify special mention. The one at Marquette was largely attended, and one in which the pastors of the Baptist, Protestant Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Methodist Episcopal Churches united. The offering at the meeting was generous. Fond du Lac County and Oconomowoc each held a successful

meeting. Ionia County auxiliary held an enthusiastic meeting. This society is alive, and promises work in the future. It was the privilege of your Superintendent to be with the Ashland County auxiliary the last Sunday of the month. I preached in the morning in the Presbyterian Church and addressed the Methodist Sunday school. In the evening I addressed a union meeting of the several congregations in the Baptist Church. The house was crowded.

MINNESOTA AND NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA.—On the first Sabbath of April I preached in the Methodist Episcopal Church of Shakopee, rode out eight miles in the afternoon, spoke at Bloomington Valley, and returned to Shakopee for the evening to attend the anniversary of the Scott County Bible Society, held in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Addresses were made by Rev. Mr. Nicholson and your Superintendent.

On the evening of the 20th the anniversary of the Otter Tail County Bible Society was held in the Norwegian Synodical Lutheran Church of Fergus Falls. Seven churches united upon this occasion. The church was well filled, and many went away because they could not get in. Addresses were made in Norwegian and English. Rev. P. Sjoblom of the Swedish Lutheran Church, Rev. Lyman Bartlett of Smyrna, Asia Minor, and your Superintendent, were among the speakers. This society makes a donation of \$24 to the work of the Parent Society.

On the morning of the last Sabbath I spoke in the First Congregational Church of Fargo, N. Dak., in the afternoon attended and addressed the anniversary of the Clay County Bible Society, held in the Swedish Lutheran Church of Moorhead, Minn., and in the evening the annual meeting of the Cass County Bible Society was held in the Methodist Episcopal Church of Fargo. The Presbyterian, Baptist, Congregational, and Methodist Episcopal Churches united for the service. Rev. Messrs. Yergin and Knight and your Superintendent addressed this interesting meeting.

NEBRASKA, COLORADO, AND WYOMING.—During this month I have attended seven annual meetings of auxiliaries. First I was with the Table Rock auxiliary, and on Saturday evening I preached in the Presbyterian Church of Table Rock, where a series of revival meetings were being held; and I addressed the Table Rock Bible Society in the same place on Sunday, the pastors of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches participating. I next visited the Humboldt Bible Society, and this also was a union meeting of all the churches. One marked feature was the interest manifested by the German Methodist people in the work. The meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church. The annual meeting of the Richardson County Bible Society was held in the Presbyterian Church of Falls City. While your Superintendent delivered the address, the pastors of the Presbyterian, Methodist, Disciples', and Protestant Episcopal Churches participated, and each of their churches contributed to the general work of the Parent Society. In addition to the above, I have spent one Sunday with the Arlington Bible Society and one with the Sarpy County Bible Society, and I addressed each of these in the Congregational Churches. The Sarpy County Bible Society has

taken a fresh hold of the Bible work, and again gives promise of renewed usefulness.

NEW JERSEY AND DELAWARE.—I visited the Newark Conference and the Conference of Congregational Churches at Paterson, and had a cordial welcome. I have preached in eight churches, addressed one Young Men's Christian Association at New Brunswick, visited seven Sabbath schools, and made many personal calls in the interest of our Bible work. I am received at all places with great cordiality. Many leading laymen and ministers express their pleasure that the Managers of the American Bible Society have appointed a Superintendent for New Jersey and Delaware.

OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, MONTANA, AND UTAH.—The annual Meeting of the Oregon Bible Society was held at the First Congregational Church in Portland on Tuesday evening, the 7th, Rev. T. E. Clapp, president of the society, in the chair. Devotional services were conducted by the president. The reports of the secretary, treasurer, and depository were read, and received proper action. A very able and interesting address was delivered by Hon. George H. Williams, of Portland. The reports, as submitted, show the following items of work for the year: Value of Bibles and Testaments sold, \$2,746 76; value of Bibles and Testaments given, \$412 79; families visited during the year, 4,378; found without the Bible, 559; destitute families supplied, 430; individuals and children supplied in addition, 1,015. More than 1,000 volumes were given to the destitute. Mission churches and needy Sunday schools have received liberal grants of books.

TEXAS.—This month I visited fourteen Bible societies and attended six annual meetings. The notable meetings of auxiliary societies were those of the counties of De Witt and Victoria. At each of these money was raised and arrangements made to canvass the cities in which they are located. The purpose is to reach, if possible, the foreign population. It affords me pleasure to make mention of the hearty co-operation I received at these places from the pastors. Brenham Bible Society employed two German theological students during their vacation to canvass among the German population.

On Tuesday night, the 8th, I attended the annual meeting of Industry Bible Society. Several of the German auxiliaries have their anniversaries on weekdays, and the attendance generally is good. All the services at this meeting were in the German language, except the address of your Superintendent. There is a growing interest among the German people and an increased demand for the Scriptures in German, especially for Bibles in large type. There are six German societies in this field now, and three more are desired.

WEST VIRGINIA.—I have visited six auxiliaries the past month, three of these being situated in Preston County. As this county had been, and is still being, canvassed by Colporteur McRae, I had expected to find considerable falling off in sales, but, on the contrary, the sales have increased, which fact shows the need of colporteur work in order to promote a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures.

I have met with more than usual encouragement

this month from pastors and in our annual meetings. I find the best and most enlightened citizens are fully alive to the important benevolent work done by the Society's agency.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACTION.

The Board of Managers sent a Memorial to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, which met at Asheville, North Carolina, in May. The Memorial was presented by Dr. Wilson, the stated clerk of the assembly, and after listening to an address by Dr. McLean, Secretary of the American Bible Society, the following action was taken, without referring the matter to a committee:

1. Once more the general assembly of the Presbyterian Church distinctly recognized the American Bible Society as an aid in the work of distributing the Scriptures, and as such commended it to the confidence and support of all the people.
2. Recommended all the churches to give the Bible cause a place among their objects of beneficence, and take up an annual collection for it.
3. Provided for a column in the statistical tables to report contributions for this cause.
4. Ordered that hereafter every year the assembly appoint a standing committee on the Bible cause, to report upon it for the consideration of the body.

ACTION OF THE RECENT GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

We rejoice in the extensive usefulness of the American Bible Society in distributing the word of God over the world. From an abstract furnished us by Dr. A. S. Hunt, the Corresponding Secretary of the Society, we are glad to learn the following statistical facts:

Since 1886 "the receipts of the Society have amounted in the aggregate to \$2,129,588 80; the disbursements to \$2,146,889; the number of copies of the Scriptures issued by the Society has been 5,888,429 in the last four years. The total circulation since its organization has been 52,766,075."

In the United States the Society has, through its agency, visited 6,309,000 families, and found 757,000 families destitute of the Bible.

The Society is now undertaking the gigantic task of putting a Bible in the hands of every Sunday school child in the United States. The Society is doing a most valuable work in spreading the Scriptures in the fields of foreign missions. It has already translated the Scriptures into about 300 heathen languages and dialects, and distributed last year in these dark lands 562,000 copies of the Bible, thus affording great helps to the missionaries in evangelizing the world.

These facts and figures show what a grand work the Society is doing in distributing the word of God to our fallen race. We rejoice then in the great work of this Society as it sends forth far and wide the blessed light of divine truth to change the winter of the moral world into the bloom and fruitage of scriptural holiness. The prayer and effort of our

people should be to give to the Bible the wings of the morning light, and bid it fly to earth's remotest bounds. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we fully appreciate the grandeur of the work, and return our profound thanks to God for the noble work the Society has already done.

Resolved, 2. That we give hearty co-operation to the American Bible Society in its great work, and that every Christian should feel that it is a precious privilege to have the opportunity of contributing something every year to increase its wide-spread usefulness.

COLPORTAGE IN ILLINOIS.

Rev. E. G. Smith, District Superintendent of Illinois, reports that Colporteur Lambdin, who is now canvassing Grundy County in behalf of the American Bible Society, reports great destitution, especially among the mining population. Of 375 families visited in half of April, 106 were without Bibles and 68 were supplied, besides 3 individuals. Mr. Lambdin writes: "In one day I distributed the complete Bible in *eight different languages* at Coal City. One Bohemian miner, to whom I had donated a Bible the day previous, not only paid the full price of the book afterward, but also bought several Testaments for his children. An Italian miner, a Romanist, paid half price for the Bible, and promised to pay the other half if he should find the Protestant Bible a good book. In making a sale in one of the beer saloons the purchaser remarked that it was the first time a Bible had ever been in his hands."

EXPERIENCES OF A COLPORTEUR IN NEBRASKA.

On the 18th of April we had a fearful sandstorm. It was so blinding that I found it impossible to move. This was followed by nearly two weeks of rain, which ended in a heavy snowstorm. The western portion of this county is very thinly settled. In about one-half of the county I found only 141 families. Some days, in driving from twelve to fourteen miles, I found only two or three families, and these were very destitute. They were without money, and very often almost destitute of food. I stayed at a house one night where a man lived by himself. Before dark the man went away and left me to myself. In the morning I searched for something to cook for my breakfast and found some flour and a lump of tallow, out of which I made a pancake, ate it, and started on a sixteen-mile trip over the sandhills. I found three families on the route, but no money. They were all anxious for Bibles. How my heart aches for these poor people!

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD.

NEW YORK, JUNE 19, 1890.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The stated meeting of the Board of Managers was held at the Bible House on Thursday, June 5th, 1890, Theophilus A. Brouwer, Esq., Vice-President, in the chair.

Religious services were conducted by the Rev. W. L. Whipple, of Persia.

Among the communications submitted to the Board were letters from Rev. D. N. Lyon, of Soochow, announcing progress made in the Soochow New Testament revision; from Mr. Carrington, in Bangkok, who is beginning to print new editions of Siamese Scriptures; from Mr. Penzotti, in Peru, expressing great satisfaction in the recent visit of Mr. Milne and Dr. Drees; from Mr. Bowen, of Constantinople, with a detailed statement of the interference of the government with the book-trade of Americans in Turkey; from Miss Ellen M. Stone, of Monastir, writing in behalf of the European Turkey Mission; from the Russian Bible Society, returning thanks for renewed proffers of aid in their attempts to reach remote parts of Russia with the Scriptures; from Rev. Hiram Bingham, of Honolulu, with further particulars about the Bible translated for the Gilbert Islanders; from Rev. E. T. Doane, with a report of sales of Ponape Scriptures in Micronesia; and from Mr. George Braithwaite, of Yokohama, giving an account of the preliminary meetings of the Bible Societies' Committee in Japan.

Grants of books were made to the value of about \$8,862 75, including \$4,000 for colportage. Funds were also granted to the amount of \$31,300 for Bible work in foreign lands, including appropriations for the Society's operations in China, Japan, and Corea.

The issues from the Bible House during the month of May were 100,095 volumes; issues since April 1st, 178,334 volumes.

Deceased Members.

Rev. Samuel Tenney, D.D., Ellsworth, Me.
Rev. William F. Hatfield, D.D., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Rev. Thomas C. Gardner, D.D., Flint, Mich.
Rev. Leland W. Day, Ashtabula, Ohio.
Rev. S. A. Brewster, Troy, Ohio.
George Green, Upper Nyack, N. Y.
John Thompson, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Rev. O. Holmes Barnard, Ottawa, Ill.
Hon. Amasa J. Parker, Albany, N. Y.
Gen. Julius White, Chicago, Ill.
Rev. A. H. Hepperly, Tiskilwa, Ill.
Rev. Zadoc Hall, Metamora, Ill.
Rev. R. F. Shinn, Norris City, Ill.
Mrs. Mira J. Abbott, Fremont, Neb.
Rev. A. D. Pollock, D.D., Warrenton, Va.
Calvin Tomkins, Tomkins Cove, N. Y.
Martin Uhler, Lincoln, Ill.
Rev. Chester Fitch, Rockford, Ill.
Mrs. Henry Hedges, Easton, Pa.
Mrs. Sarah Hastie, Apple River, Ill.
Salmon C. Gillette, Colchester, Ct.
Mrs. Thomas Sparks, Philadelphia, Pa.
Rev. Ira Norris, Lacon, Ill.
Rev. J. Hazard Hartzell, Waverly, N. Y.
Rev. B. N. Spahr, Columbus, Ohio.

Summary of District Superintendents' Reports for the month of April, 1890.

Number of District Superintendents reporting.....	21
Auxiliaries, Branches, etc., visited.....	142
Anniversaries attended.....	59
New Societies and Committees formed.....	—
Sermons and Addresses delivered for the Bible cause	208
Letters sent.....	2,106

Miles travelled on official duty.....	24,030
Donations and subscriptions secured for Bible cause.....	\$2,515 57

Summary of Bible Distribution in April, by 63 Colporteurs and 18 County Agents reporting.

	Colporteurs.	Co. Ag'ts.
Days of service.....	1,164	1,180
Miles travelled.....	14,319	2,851
Families visited by them.....	18,174	12,410
Families found without a copy of Scriptures.....	2,867	1,181
Families supplied by sale or gift.....	1,938	636
Destitute individuals supplied in addition.....	917	389
Number of books sold.....	6,492	1,432
Value of books sold.....	\$2,433 17	\$630 23
Number of books distributed gratuitously.....	1,729	1,003
Value of books distributed gratuitously.....	\$401 60	\$185 80
Contributions received.....	128 43	593 00

Summary of 76 Annual Reports of Auxiliary Societies, received in May, 1890.

Receipts from sales in twelve months.....	\$6,537 55
Receipts from collections and donations.....	2,422 02
Paid American Bible Society on book account.....	6,256 61
Paid American Bible Society on donation account.....	726 59
Expended on their own fields.....	2,596 85
Value of books donated.....	420 25
Value of stock on hand at date.....	8,053 08
No. of these auxiliaries reporting general operations.....	13
Collecting and distributing Agents employed.....	13
Families visited by them.....	27,783
Families found destitute.....	1,889
Destitute families supplied.....	1,133
Destitute individuals supplied in addition.....	1,072
Sabbath and other schools supplied.....	13

RECEIPTS IN MAY, 1890.

LEGACIES.

Bancroft, B. F., late of Salem, N. Y.....	\$824 44
Folsom, Alexander, late of Bay City, Mich.....	3,750 00
Fowler, Orlin, late of Fall River, Mass.....	1,081 44
Odell, J. Danforth, late of Morrison, Ill.....	2,169 24
	\$8,435 12

CHURCH COLLECTIONS.

ALABAMA.

Gadsden, First Pres. Ch., S. S.....	\$3 00
" Pres. Ch.....	9 02
Jacksonville, First Pres. Ch.....	6 60
" Meth. Ep. Ch. South.....	15 50
Talladega, Meth. Ep. Ch. South.....	5 00
" Pres. Ch.....	7 50
White Plains, Meth. Ep. Ch. South.....	4 50

ARKANSAS.

Alma, Pres. Ch.....	2 00
Bentonville, Churches.....	10 25
Benton, Cumberland Pres. Ch.....	2 61
Des Arc, Pres. & Meth. Churches.....	15 25
Lonoke, Meth. Ep. Ch. South.....	33 60
" Pres. Ch.....	3 60
Little Rock, Cumberland Pres. Ch.....	17 85
Ozark, Cumberland Pres. Ch. & S. S.....	15 13
" Colored Baptist Ch.....	50

CALIFORNIA.

Santa Barbara, Pres. Ch.....	15 25
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CONNECTICUT.

Black Rock, Cong. Ch.....	19 46
New England Southern Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	\$28 00

FLORIDA.

Orlando, Meth. Ep. Ch. & S. S. South.....	9 19
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GEORGIA.

Savannah Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	34 00
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INDIANA.

North Indiana Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	111 85
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IOWA.

Albia, United Pres. Ch.....	6 00
Leon, First Pres. Ch.....	4 00

KANSAS.

Belle Plaine, Pres. Ch.....	1 00
Christian Churches.....	3 75
Milford, Cong. Ch.....	3 90

KENTUCKY.

Glasgow, Colored Meth. Ep. Ch., in America.....	2 10
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MAINE.

East Maine Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	76 25
Maine Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	139 62

MASSACHUSETTS.

New England Southern Conf., M. E. Ch.....	3 00
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MICHIGAN.

Ashland, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	4 00
Grand Haven, First Reformed Ch.....	10 10
Lucas, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	1 75
Three Rivers, Evangelical Asst. Ch.....	3 00

MISSOURI.

Carthage, Churches in.....	\$30 00
Concordia, Churches in.....	20 50
Central Missouri Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	3 70
Fredericktown, Meth. Ep. Ch. South.....	11 75
Jefferson City, Church Collections.....	48 80
Mount Vernon, Churches in.....	15 83
Mine La Motte, Cong. Ch.....	3 95
Missouri Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	36 00
Parkville Circuit, M. E. Ch. South.....	3 10
St. Louis, North Pres. Ch.....	5 00
St. Louis Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	113 10
" German Conf., M. E. Ch.....	1 00
Warrenburg, Churches in.....	14 65

NEBRASKA.

Blair, Danish Luth. Evang. Ch.....	3 75
Beatrice, First Pres. Ch.....	16 52
Paucnee City, United Pres. Ch.....	24 16
Salem, Pres. Ch. & S. S.....	1 71

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

New Hampshire Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	8 00
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NEW JERSEY.

New Egypt, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	10 00
" Pres. Ch.....	6 87
West Milford, Pres. Ch.....	1 00

NEW YORK.

East Hamburg, Pres. Ch.....	1 60
Lodi, Reformed Ch.....	10 85
New York East Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	725 00
North New York Conf., M. E. Ch.....	212 63
Oxford, Cong. Ch.....	4 00
Parkville, Meth. Ep. Ch., Long Island.....	6 00
Troy Conference, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	467 18

NORTH CAROLINA.

Concord, Presbytery.....	20 75
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OHIO.

Cleveland, Pres. Ch.....	1 00
Chicago, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	11 00
Matta, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	10 00
Perkins, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	6 00
Toledo, Pres. Ch.....	15 55

PENNSYLVANIA.

Houtsdale, Pres. Ch.....	1 00
Oil City, Second Pres. Ch.....	5 00
Washington, Second Pres. Ch.....	15 00

TENNESSEE.

Greenville, A. Meth. Ep. Zion Ch.....	3 31
Rogersville, " " " ".....	3 42

TEXAS.

Albany, Pres. Ch.....	2 05
Austin, Porter Chapel S. S., "Easter Offering".....	2 00
Dallas, Second Pres. Ch. S. S.....	5 00

WISCONSIN.

Hartford, Evang. Asst. Ch.....	6 20
Milwaukee, Bay View Evang. Asst. Church.....	3 50
Neillsville, Pres. Ch.....	1 00
Whitewater, Evang. Asst. Ch.....	2 00

\$2,897 76

GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS.

Ames, Mrs. C. L., Jersey City, N. J.....	\$2 00
Anonymous, Baton Rouge, La.....	3 00
Burnham, H. P., La Salle, Ill.....	50 00

Bolender, Daniel, Felicity, Ohio.....	\$5 00
Collection at Cedar Mine, Iowa.....	9 10
Collections by Colporteurs.....	128 43
Davies, Miss Anna T., Harrodsburgh, Ky.....	3 50
Drake, Miss Jane, Shelby, Ohio.....	10 00
Ellis, Dr. E., Ashland, Wis.....	30 00
Grant, J. G., New Orleans, La.....	4 00
Hageman, Garretson, Middlebush, N. J.....	30 00
Hemenway, Mrs. Lucy, Marcellus, N. Y.....	30 00
Jones, R., Alabama.....	80 00
Mitchell, Rev. D. L., New Orleans, La.....	10 00
McLaurin, Rev. J. W.....	3 08
Melick, Mrs. Mary A. B., Little Osage, Mo.....	8 00
Members of Reformed Church, Kingston, N. Y.....	60 00
Mintram, Alfred C., New York.....	20 00
Religious Contribution Society of Princeton Theological Seminary, N. J.....	20 60
Shreve, Mary L., Greensboro, Ky.....	2 50
Sayre, Brooks, Summit, N. J.....	11 00
Silva, Frank C. B., California.....	3 00
Sledge, Col. J. R., Kyle, Texas.....	5 00
Thompson, Miss Eva, Perry Centre, N. Y.....	25
Union Meeting, Magnolia, Miss.....	5 00
" " Forest, Miss.....	16 30
" " Summit, Miss.....	29 00
" " Gloster, Miss.....	63 55
Whiting, Mrs. S. A., Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.....	30 00

\$622 31

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

	Credited as Donation	Credited on Account
Alameda & Contra Costa, Cal.....	\$35 00	
Alton & Vicinity, Ill.....	56 93	
Allen Co., Ks.....	11 53	
Arapahoe Bible Com., Neb.....	26 32	
Atlantic Co., N. J.....	25 00	
Athens Co., Ohio.....	75 00	
Anderson Co., S. C.....	14 98	
Ashland Co., Wis.....	70 04	
Bessemer, Ala.....	43 76	
Beebe & Vicinity, Ark.....	9 45	
Barnesville, Ga.....	13 80	
Black Hawk Co., Iowa.....	32 16	
Brooklyn & Vic., Iowa.....	32 92	
Bourbon Co., Ky.....	71 20	
Barren Co., Ky.....	35 86	
Barry Co., Mich.....	7 61	
Berrien Co., Mich.....	\$26 37	
Bloomington & Vic., Neb.....	28 87	
Broome Co., N. Y.....	224 46	
Barnwell Co., S. C.....	11 80	
Brazos Co., Texas.....	46 70	
Central, Ark.....	1 00	
Cedar Falls, Iowa.....	4 38	
Cherokee Co., Ks.....	80	
Choyenne Co., Ks.....	10 80	
Carver Co., Minn.....	87 12	
Clay Co., Minn.....	38 99	
Cameron, Mo.....	20 00	

Credited as Donations. on Account.		Credited as Donations. on Account.		Credited as Donations. on Account.		
Columbia Co., N. Y.....	\$140 08	\$11 76	Green Co., Ky.....	\$42 86	Laurens Co., S. C.....	\$79 68
Chenango Co., N. Y.....		18 00	Goodhue Co., Minn.....	84 27	Milton, Fla.....	16 50
Cortland Co., N. Y.....		1 00	Greene Co., Tenn.....	45 61	Montebello, Ill.....	2 66
Catawba Co., N. C.....		21 11	Hickory Plains, Ark.....	4 50	Morgan Co., Ind.....	43 97
Cass Co., N. D.....		44 07	Humboldt, Iowa.....	10 00	Monroe Co., Iowa.....	\$15 00 10 00
Cincinnati Young Men's, O.		102 84	Horry Co., S. C.....	29 78	Mahaska Co., Iowa.....	51 51
Cheraw, S. C.....	15 00	27 74	Humboldt, Tenn.....	15 00	Marmaton Township, Ks.....	4 66
Clinton, S. C.....		30 00	Hamblen Co., Tenn.....	40 00	Milford, Mass.....	13 37
Cocke Co., Tenn.....		57 31	Hawkins Co., Tenn.....	67 42	Massachusetts.....	50
Coryell Co., Texas.....		21 90	Hamilton Co., Texas.....	36 00	Monroe Co., Mich.....	14 08
Charlestown & Vic., W. Va.		37 73	Hampshire Co., W. Va.....	12 50	Mason Co., Mich. l.....	88 23
Doniphan Co., Ks.....		5 40	Iowa Falls, Iowa.....	27 00	Millie Lac Co., Minn.....	32 00
Dade Co., Mo.....		8 43	Indiana Bible Association		Maryland.....	700 00
Dakota Co., Neb.....		6 00	of Friends, Ind.....	156 72	Marion Co., Miss.....	51 03
Dodge Co., Neb.....		70 00	Industry, Texas.....	45 67	Monroe Co., Miss.....	52 92
Douglas Co., Neb.....		22 00	Jefferson Co., Ala.....	21 95	Morris Co., N. J.....	200 00
Delaware Co., N. Y.....		4 00	Johnson Co., Ark.....	18 00	Mitchell, S. D.....	10 00
Davidson Co., N. C.....		10 00	Jefferson Co., Ark.....	10 70	Monroe Co., Tenn.....	13 70
Dallas Co., Texas.....		75 00	Johnsonville & Vic., Ark.....	22 15	Marion Co., W. Va.....	15 00 44 17
Eaton Co., Mich.....		10 69	Jasper Co., Ind.....	13 25	Nevada.....	3 70
Emmet Co., Mich.....		25 00	Jeffersonville & Vic., Ind.....	32 73	North Bend & Vicinity, Neb.	7 60 14 24
Franklin Co., Ark.....		45 18	Jewell Co., Ks.....	41 35	Nelson Bible Com., Neb.....	38 30
Fort Valley, Ga.....		6 75	Jackson Co., Ks.....	31 00	New Hampshire.....	262 37
Ford Co., Ill.....		16 84	Kankakee Co., Ill.....	40 00	Nashville, Tenn.....	104 99
Farmington & Vic., Ill.....		25 00	Keokuk City, Iowa.....	16 85	Newburg & Vicinity, W. Va.	8 00 4 57
Fayette Co., Ind.....		10 93	Knoxville, Tenn.....	59 19	New London, Wis.....	7 93
Fulton & Vic., Ky.....		57 52	Lafayette Co., Ark.....	8 10	Orange Co., Fla.....	16 43
Freeborn Co., Minn.....		59 44	Lonoke & Vic., Ark.....	12 50	Ogle Co., Ill.....	100 00
Falls Co., Texas.....		45 00	La Porte Co., Ind.....	46 66	Olmsted Co., Minn.....	10 00
Fond du Lac Co., Wis.....		6 52	Lucas Co., Iowa.....	41 50	Otter Tail Co., Minn.....	24 00 51 09
Gadsden, Ala.....		57 94	Lincoln Co., Ks.....	25 37	Oakland Co., Mich.....	95 00

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

RECEIPTS FOR BENEVOLENT ACCOUNT.

	Legacies.	Church Collections.	Gifts from Auxiliaries.	Gifts from Individuals.	From Sales of Books Donated.	Sales reported by Corporations.	Income from Perpetual Trust Funds.	Sales reported by Foreign Agents.	Returns from Missionary and other Societies.	Miscellaneous.	Total Transfers.	Total Cash.
Cash.....	8,435 12	2,837 76	558 46	622 31	20 47	2,444 42	1,165 09	1,747 20	317 20	1 10	\$	\$
Transfers.....			2,097 35			9 00		880 30			2,986 65	18,149 13
From Auxiliaries.....											542 76	9,161 31
“ The Trade.....											28 19	1,705 91
“ Rents.....												3,547 44
“ Investments subject to Life Interest.....												6 00
“ Interest on Available Funds.....												34 38
“ Available Funds—Atlantic Insurance Co. Scrip Paid Off.....												140 00
“ British and Foreign Bible Society—Value of Books Received.....											197 58	

RECEIPTS FOR MANUFACTURING ACCOUNT.

	Depository Sales.	Retail Sales.	Sales of Waste Material.	Job Work.	Miscellaneous.
Cash.....		1,855 79	253 81		
Transfers.....	25,101 82	404 88		437 38	11 54
Total Transfers.....					29,760 80
“ Cash Receipts.....					34,653 77
Cash Balance from April, 1890.....					14,980 46

N. B.—The amounts in *ITALIC* type are not actual cash transactions, but necessary payments by transfer as between the different Departments, to show the net result of each.

N. R.—The amounts in *ITALIC* type are not actual cash transactions, but necessary payments by transfer as between the different Departments, to show the net result of each.

OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

HON. ENOCH L. FANCHER, LL.D.....	President.
REV. EDWARD W. GILMAN, D.D.....	} Corresponding Secretaries.
REV. ALEXANDER MCLEAN, D.D.....	
REV. ALBERT S. HUNT, D.D.....	} Treasurers.
WILLIAM FOULKE.....	
CALEB T. ROWE.....	General Agent.

DIRECTIONS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters relating to the general work of the Society in the United States or foreign lands, and requests for grants of books and communications for the Bible Society Record, should be addressed to "The Secretaries of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

Letters transmitting funds, and those relating to accounts, fiscal reports, Life Memberships, and Legacies, should be addressed to "The Treasurer of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

Orders for Bibles and Testaments, the Bible Society Record, etc., and letters in reference to the transmission of the same, should be addressed to "The General Agent of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

Orders for books should be accompanied with payment, as the rule of the Society requires that all sales shall be for cash only. *No books are supplied for sale on commission, but as a special inducement, a discount of ten per cent. from the catalogue prices is made to Auxiliary Societies and dealers in books.*

BIBLES AND TESTAMENTS.

The attention of the public is invited to the large assortment of Bibles and Testaments published by the Society, and for sale at cost at the Bible House in New York.

The prices of Bibles vary from *twenty cents to twenty-seven dollars*. Testaments from *five cents upwards*.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS.

FIELD OF LABOR.	NAME AND POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Alabama & Florida.....	Rev. Z. A. PARKER, Birmingham, Ala.
Arkansas.....	Rev. W. H. VERNOR, D.D., Little Rock, Ark.
California & Nevada.....	Rev. JOHN THOMPSON, Oakland, Cal.
Georgia.....	Rev. HERBERT P. MYERS, Barnesville, Geo.
Illinois.....	Rev. E. G. SMITH, Princeton, Ill.
Indiana.....	Rev. W. J. VIGUS, Wabash, Ind.
Iowa.....	Rev. R. W. HUGHES, Grinnell, Iowa.
Kansas.....	Rev. S. D. STORRS, Topeka, Kansas.
Kentucky & Tennessee.....	Rev. GEO. S. SAVAGE, M.D., Covington, Ky.
Louisiana & Mississippi.....	Rev. J. W. MCLAURIN, New Orleans, La.
Michigan & Wisconsin.....	Rev. ANDREW J. MEAD, Appleton, Wis.
Minnesota & Dakota.....	Rev. JOSHUA T. EVANS, Minneapolis, Minn.
Missouri.....	Rev. J. W. LEWIS, D.D., St. Louis, Mo.
Nebraska, Colorado, & Wyo- ming.....	Rev. G. W. WAINWRIGHT, D.D., Blair, Neb.
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North & South Carolina.....	Rev. THOMAS H. LAW, D.D., Spartanburg, S. C.
Ohio.....	Rev. E. S. GILLETTE, Cleveland, Ohio.
Oregon, Washington Terr'y, Idaho, and Montana.....	Rev. P. C. HETZLER, Salem, Oregon.
Texas.....	Rev. WILLIAM B. RANKIN, Austin, Texas.
West Virginia.....	Rev. THOMAS COTTON, Parkersburg, W. Va.

NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES.

The officers of Auxiliary Societies are requested to forward their annual reports to the Parent Society promptly. Blank forms will be furnished for this purpose on application.

Whenever a new society is organized, notice of the event should be given *immediately* to the Parent Society, so that it may be recognized. The names of its officers and their post-office addresses should also be given.

No society can be considered as having become auxiliary, until it shall have officially communicated to the Parent Society that its sole object is to promote the circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment; and that it will place its surplus revenue, after supplying its own district with the Scriptures, at the disposal of the American Bible Society, as long as it shall remain thus connected with it.

DONATIONS.

The payment of thirty dollars at one time constitutes the subscriber a Life Member of the Society. The increase of the subscription to one hundred and fifty dollars, or the contribution of that amount in one payment, constitutes the subscriber a Life Director.

FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

I give and bequeath to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, the sum of _____, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society.

REGULATIONS RESPECTING GRANTS.

To whom grants are made. Upon suitable application, the Board of Managers will make grants of books, to Auxiliary Societies and to other responsible parties, for sale and gratuitous distribution.

The descriptions of books granted. The Board of Managers grant chiefly their cheaper publications, keeping in view the special necessities of the various classes of persons to be supplied. Fine and costly books cannot be given away consistently with the benevolent ends of the Society.

How to obtain grants. For local work, requests for donations of books should be presented first to the Auxiliary Societies within whose fields the books are to be distributed, and whose duty it is to furnish them, if possible. When an Auxiliary is unable to do this, application should be made to this Society, with the endorsement of a responsible officer of the Auxiliary.

Applications from Auxiliaries, and those for general work from other parties, should each have the endorsement of the District Superintendent.

Public institutions supported by local or State governments, and public libraries, colleges, seminaries, and secular schools, do not come within the range of charitable objects.

The American Bible Society expects that due credit will be given for its donations by those to whom its books are confined for distribution.

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD.

The price of the Bible Society Record to subscribers, for 1890, will be 30 cents a year, in advance, and the United States postage in all cases will be prepaid by the Society. Twelve copies will be sent to one address for three dollars, in advance. Any life director or life member of this Society may receive one copy free of postage by virtue of his membership, on the simple condition that the request for it is renewed annually. On the same condition a copy will be sent to pastors of churches contributing directly to the funds of the Society.

Three copies will be sent, as heretofore, to the president, secretary, and treasurer of each auxiliary from which remittances are received. Other copies may be ordered at the club rates; but the money should in all cases accompany the order.

Every person who is entitled to the Record and fails to receive it, is specially requested to communicate the fact by letter or postal card, giving his post-office address.